



Key Elements for Successful Collaboration: Examples from TBEP

Holly Greening, Director

Charlie Justice, Pinellas Ct Commissioner



Tampa Bay in the 1970s



Archie Creek

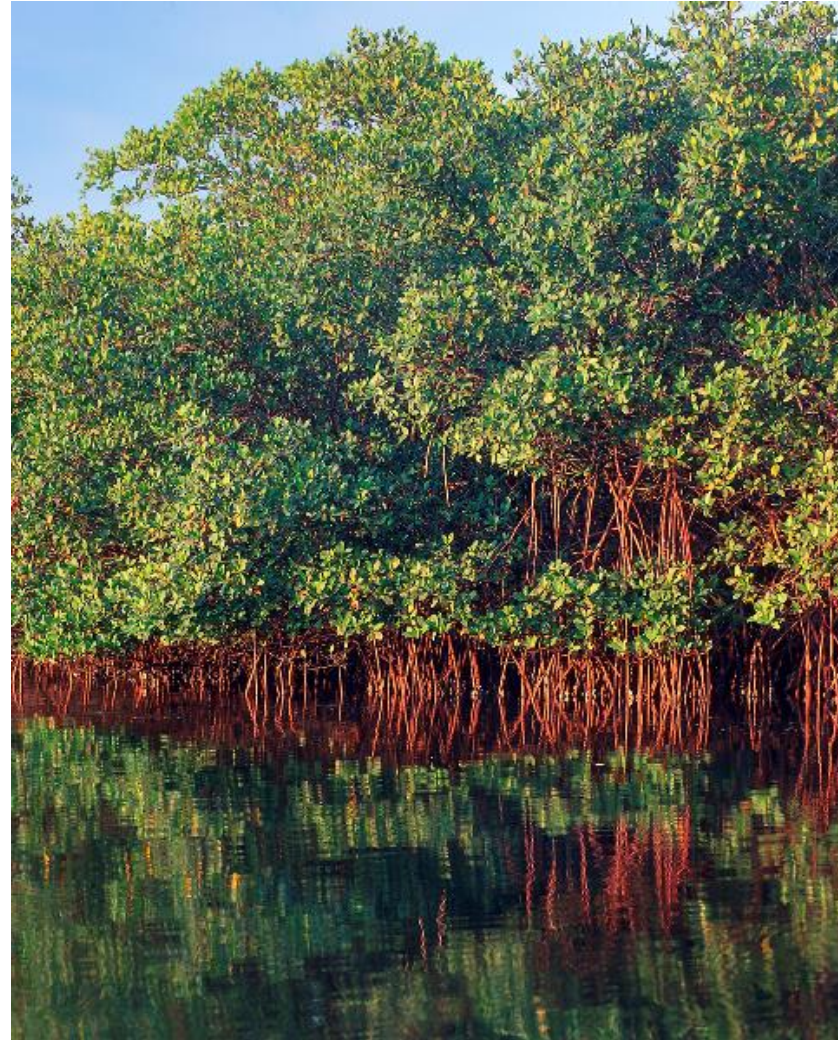


“The Kitchen” (Hillsborough Bay near Gibsonton)

Photo by JOR Johansson

Restoring Tampa Bay

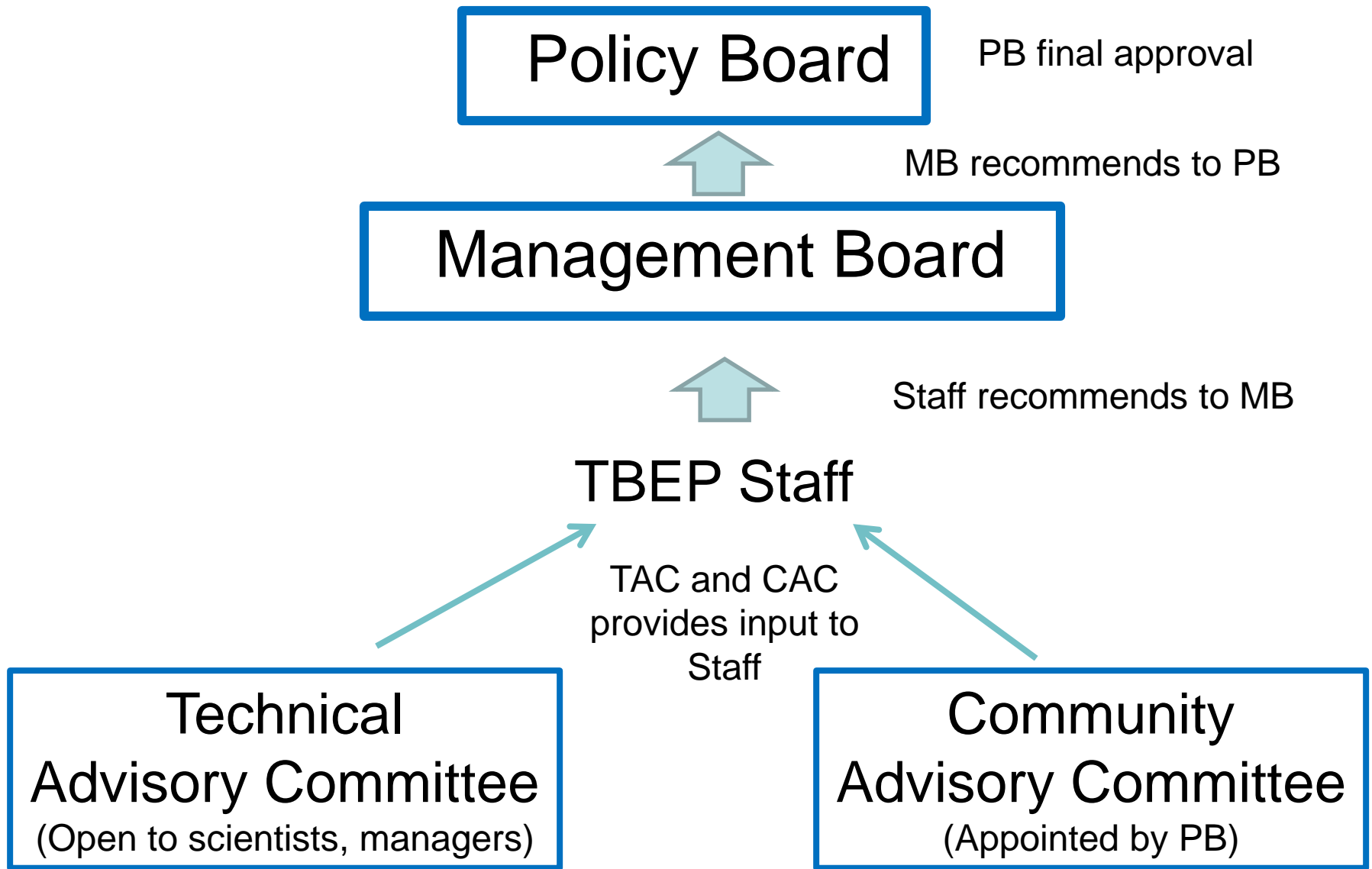
- Citizen action
- SWFWMD SWIM
late 1980s
- TBEP
1990



TBEP Partners



TBEP Structure



EARLY Key Element: Resolution to Participate

Consider an 'Agreement to Participate'

- All PB and MB parties sign on to collaborate and act in good faith
- Agree to identify the goals
- Agree to contribute funds and/or in-kind to support technical work
- Agree to stay science-based



Key Element: Choosing a Entity Type

- Hosted within an existing government structure (Local government; Agency; Regional Planning Council)
 - Existing infrastructure and support; possible existing staff
 - Subject to host's requirements (travel, purchasing, etc)
 - May not be viewed as independent
- NGO
 - Requires start-up formation, need to provide support structure
 - Independent
 - May be viewed as competition to existing NGOs
 - Can include public and private sectors
- Independent Special District (State of Florida Statute 189)
 - Requires Interlocal Agreement and funding commitments
 - Public sector
 - Independent
 - Need to provide support structure

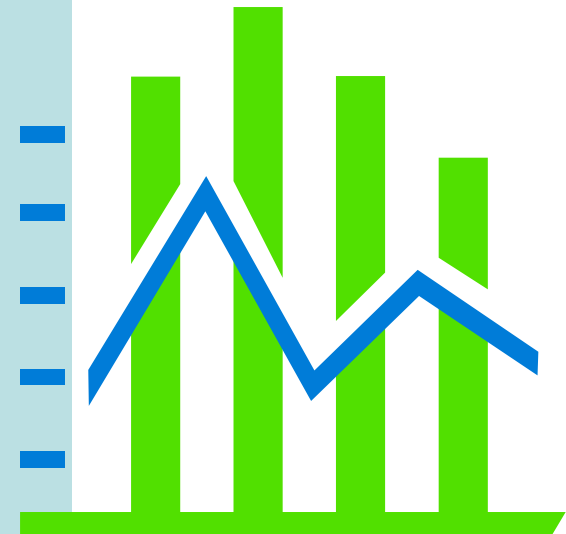
EARLY Key Element: Establish Entity's Functions

1. Organize and facilitate
2. Manage finances; grant applications
3. Point of contact
4. Manage technical contractors/projects
5. Prepare annual assessments on progress
6. Outreach and Education
7. Report to stakeholders, agencies and the public

EARLY Key Elements:

Synthesize existing information and identify gaps

- Status and trends of important natural resources, water quality, pollution sources, other impacts
 - Technical and public documents
- Document and track ongoing projects and actions
- Identify and prioritize critical gaps in information or knowledge needed to make management decisions (2-day workshop)



EARLY Key Element: Adopt Measurable Goals

Resource goals considered important by scientists, policymakers and the public



Difference between 1950 and 1990
seagrass cover

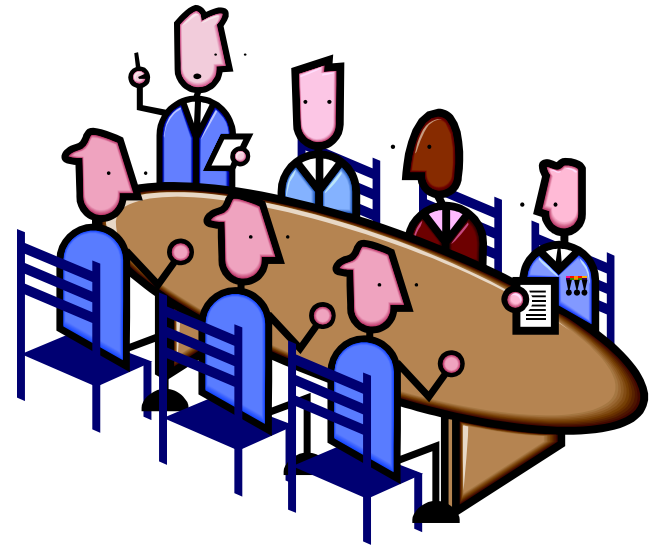
**Restore seagrass
acreage to that
observed in ~1950.**



EARLY Key Element

Invite all to participate in a collaborative process

- Public sector
- Private sector- mining
- Regulatory agencies
- Agriculture (FDACS)
- Electric utilities
- Environmental groups

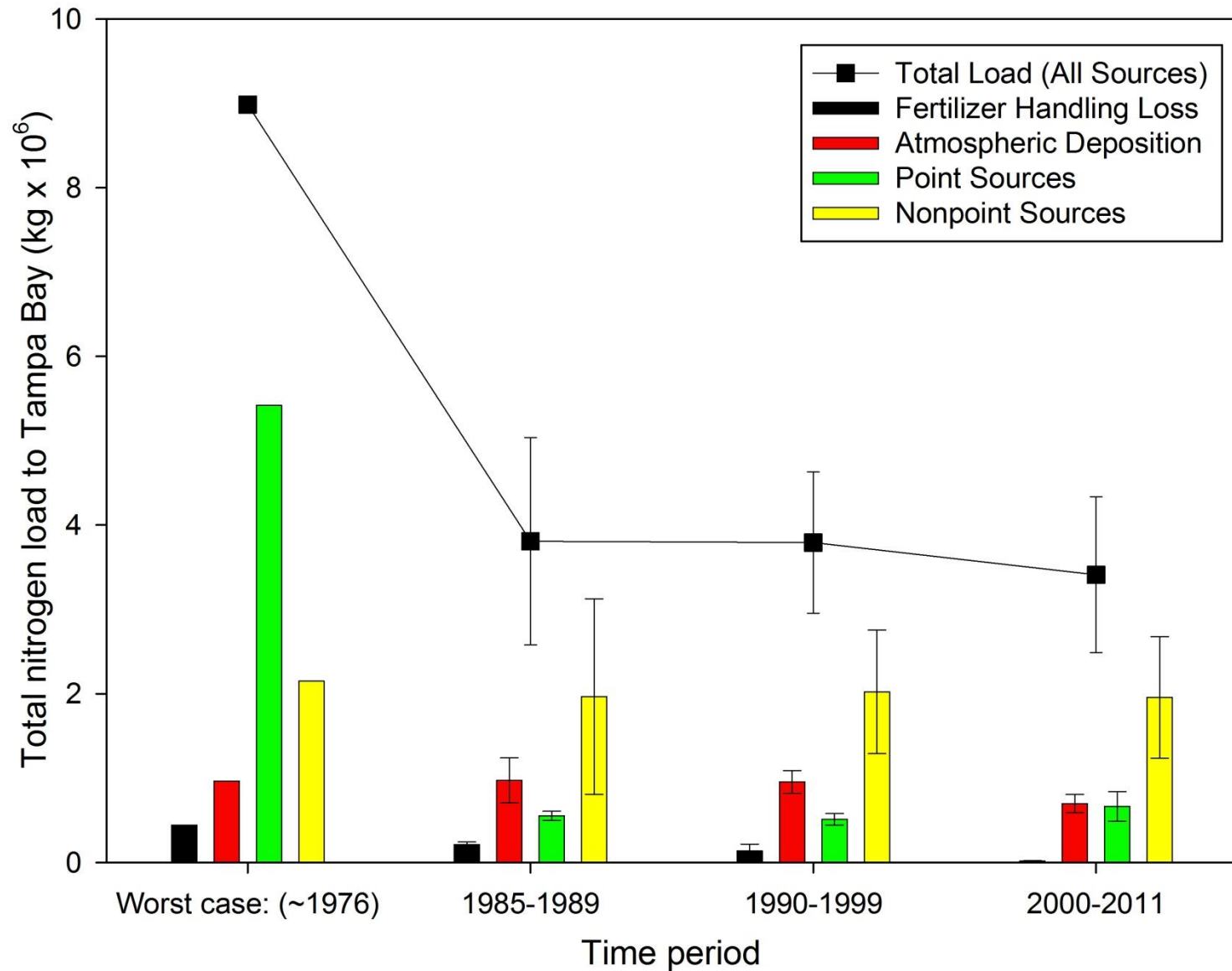


Tampa Bay Nitrogen Management Consortium

- 45+ public and private partners throughout watershed-
collaborative approach to meeting regulatory water quality goals (EPA-recognized TMDL).
- 500 projects and actions
- Consortium **developed and agreed to voluntary 'caps'** on nitrogen loads at 2003-2007 levels for all sources. Caps now incorporated into permits. TMDL is being met.



Nitrogen load has decreased



Water quality has improved

Annual average chl-a concentration thresholds

Advanced wastewater treatment begins

Stormwater regulations enacted

TBEP formed

NMC formed

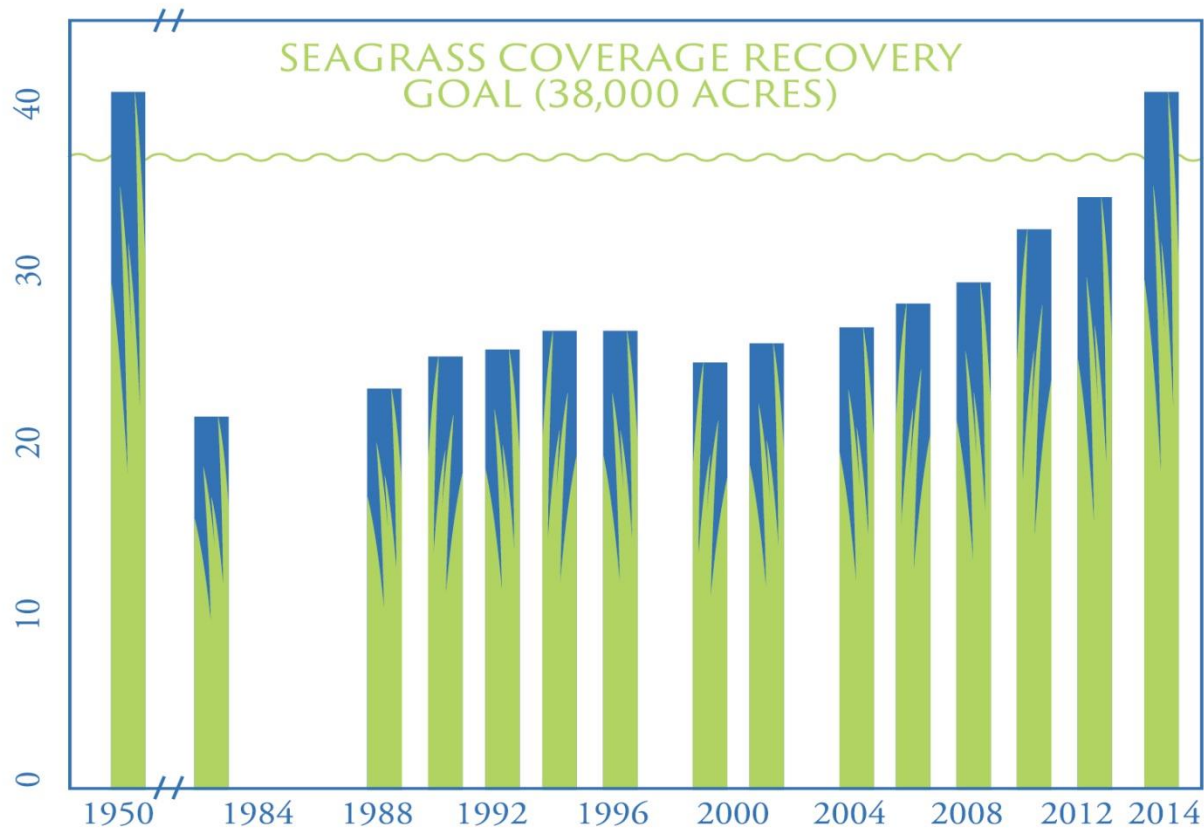


Year	Old Tampa Bay	Hillsborough Bay	Middle Tampa Bay	Lower Tampa Bay
1974	No	No	No	Yes
1975	No	No	No	Yes
1976	No	No	No	Yes
1977	No	No	No	No
1978	No	No	No	Yes
1979	No	No	No	No
1980	No	No	No	No
1981	No	No	No	No
1982	No	No	No	No
1983	No	No	No	No
1984	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
1985	No	No	No	Yes
1986	No	No	Yes	Yes
1987	No	Yes	No	Yes
1988	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1989	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1990	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1991	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1992	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1993	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1994	No	No	No	No
1995	No	No	No	Yes
1996	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1997	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1998	No	No	No	No
1999	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2000	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2001	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2002	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2003	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2004	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2005	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
2006	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2007	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2008	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2009	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2010	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2011	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2012	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2013	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2014	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Data source: EPCHC

2015- Seagrass Goal Met!

SEAGRASS COVERAGE (x 1,000 ACRES)



Data: SWFWMD

COVER STORY

CLEAN WATER MEANS MORE THAN YOU THINK

Despite massive growth, water quality in Tampa Bay has improved dramatically in 20 years



Dorian Photography Inc.



HEALTHY BAY

1 out of every 5 jobs in the TBEP Watershed depend on a healthy bay.

\$22B

within all six counties

13%

of economy for all six counties

Key Elements in Tampa Bay's Collaborative Management Strategy

- Target resources identified by both public and science as “worthy” indicators
- Community willing to work together towards common goals
- Science-based numeric goals and targets
- Multiple tools: Regulation; public/private collaborative actions; citizen actions
- Long-term monitoring
- Convener to track, facilitate, report progress
- Assessment and adjustment
- Link to economic value of a healthy bay

Perspectives from TBEP Policy Board and County Commissioner Charlie Justice



A scenic background image of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm orange glow across the sky and water. A white egret is in flight on the left side of the frame. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds. The water reflects the sunset colors. The overall mood is peaceful and natural.

Questions ?

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